

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

**Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae, *Dendropsophus microcephalus* (Boulenger, 1898):  
Distribution extensions**

Wilmar Bolívar-G,<sup>1\*</sup> Jhon Jairo Ospina-Sarria,<sup>2</sup> Javier Méndez-Narváez,<sup>2</sup>  
and Carlos Eduardo Burbano-Yandi <sup>2</sup>

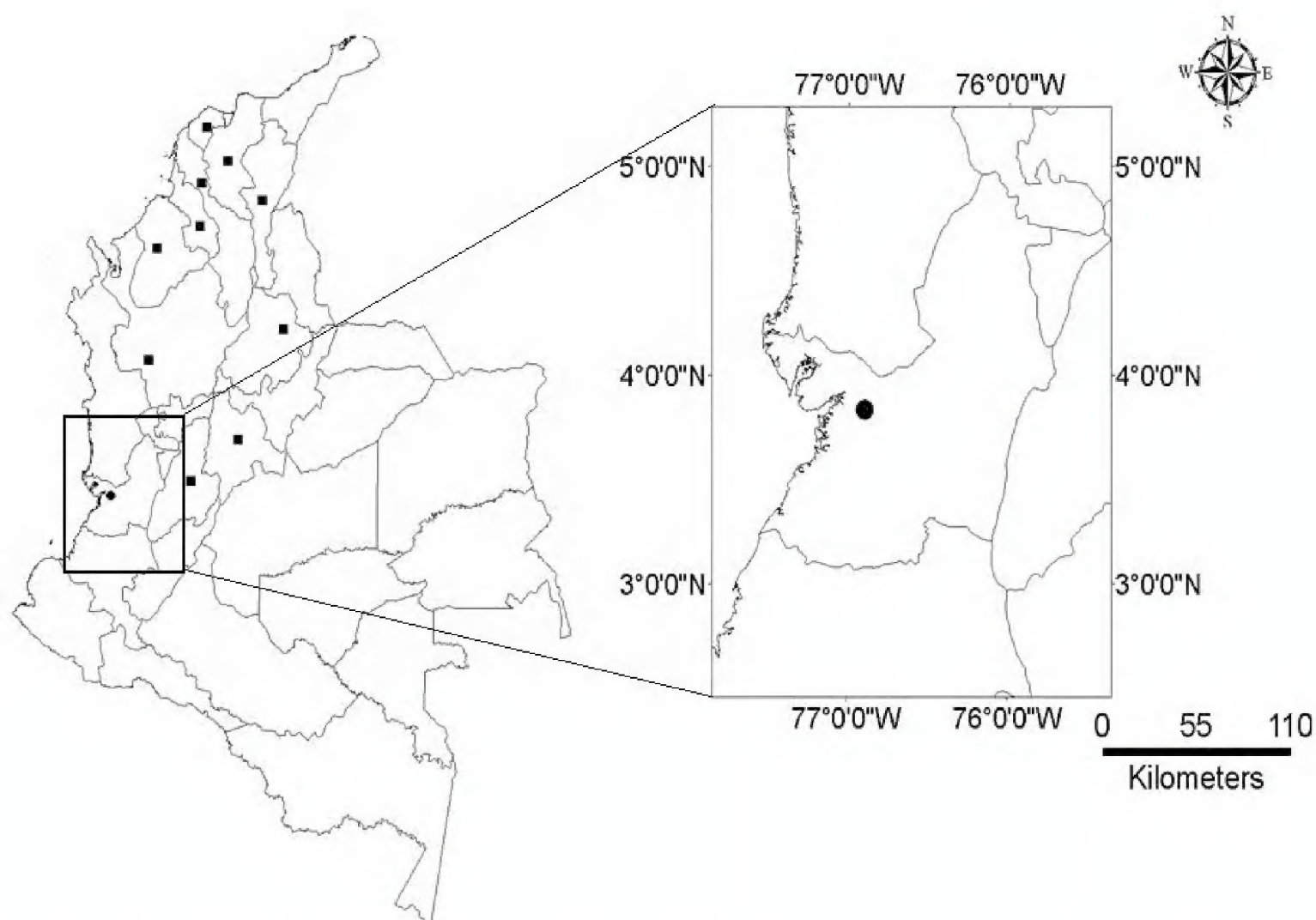
<sup>1</sup> *Universidad del Valle, Departamento de Biología, Laboratorio de Herpetología.  
Cali-Colombia. A. A. 25360, Cali, Colombia.*

<sup>2</sup> *Student of academic program of Biology from the Universidad del Valle, Cali-Colombia.  
A. A. 25360, Cali, Colombia.*

\* Corresponding author. Email: wbolivar@univalle.edu.co

*Dendropsophus microcephalus* (Boulenger, 1898) is a small frog; males attain a maximum snout-vent length of 27 mm and females 32 mm (Duellman 2001). The main diagnostic characters of this species are: the flat shape of the head with a round and short snout; the eyes with horizontally elliptical pupils (McCranie and Wilson 2002); the thighs uniformly yellow with a brown line; the dorsum either tan-yellow or light yellow with

brown, red or tan markings; a narrow brown lateral stripe extending from the nostril to the sacral region or to the groin, bordered above by a narrow white line; the dorsal pattern with either an "X" shape in their backs or two longitudinal bars connected with another across; however, the last character is considered highly erratic, due to interpopulation differences on the species (Duellman 2001).



**Figure 1.** Left: Map of Colombia showing historical locations (black square) and the new locality for *D. microcephalus* (black dot). Right: Locality where *Dendropsophus microcephalus* were collected (black dot) in *Reserva Forestal San Cipriano y Escalerete*, municipality of Buenaventura, Colombia.



Assigned to *Dendropsophus microcephalus* group (*sensu* Faivovich et al. 2005), this species is distributed on the Atlantic lowlands from southern Veracruz and northern Oaxaca states, Mexico, south-eastward on the Pacific lowlands through central Guatemala and southward to Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. It also occurs from northern and eastern South America, in Colombia, Venezuela, and also in Trinidad and Tobago, and Trinidad Island, to southeastern Brazil (Duellman 2001; Bolaños et al. 2004).

In Colombia *D. microcephalus* is found at elevations below 560 m (Duellman 2001). It is known from the Caribbean region, in the valleys of the Cauca and Magdalena river (Figure 1), and in the departments of Antioquia, Atlántico, Bolívar, Cesar, Córdoba, Cundinamarca, Magdalena, Sucre and Tolima (Ruiz-Carranza et al. 1996; Renjifo and Lundberg 1999; Acosta-Galvis 2000; Cuentas-Montalvo et al. 2002; Muñoz-Guerrero et al. 2007; Romero-Martinez et al. 2008).

On 26 April 2009, during field work carried out in the *Reserva Forestal San Cipriano y Escalerete*, municipality of Buenaventura, Colombia (3°50'0.15" N, 76°53'30.6" W, 60-90 m), two adult males (SVL = 21.8 mm and 22.2 mm) of *D. microcephalus* (Figure 2) were collected and deposited in the *Museo de Anfibios y Reptiles, Universidad del Valle*, Cali, Colombia (UV-C 15708-15709). We herein report the first record for this species in the department of Valle del Cauca and the southernmost record in the Pacific lowlands (Figure 1).

*Dendropsophus microcephalus* has been reported as a species able to occur in disturbed areas (Duellman 1970; Bolaños et al. 2004). These observations are consistent with the present report, because the two specimens collected by us were found calling on the vegetation, close to road and human constructions. Moreover, while the field work was being carried out, specimens only were found active during and after rainfall.



**Figure 2.** An adult male of *Dendropsophus microcephalus* (UV-C 15708) from *Reserva Forestal San Cipriano y Escalerete*, municipality of Buenaventura, Colombia. Photo by Jhon Jairo Ospina-Sarria.

**Acknowledgments:** We are grateful to James R. McCranie for his help with taxonomic confirmation of the specimens. The corporation CVC and the foundation San Cipriano for allowing us access in *Reserva Forestal San Cipriano y Escalerete*. Finally, to the academic program of Biology of the *Universidad del Valle* for the opportunity to undertake the fieldwork that led to do this report.



## Literature cited

- Acosta-Galvis, A. 2000. Ranas, Salamandras y Caecilias (Tetrapoda: Amphibia) de Colombia. *Biota Colombiana* 1: 289-319.
- Bolanos, F., G. Santos-Barrera, F. Solis, R. Ibanes, L. D. Wilson, J. Savage, J. Lee, M.T. Rodríguez, U. Caramaschi, A. Mijares and J. Hardy. 2008. *Dendropsophus microcephalus*; In IUCN 2004. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Electronic Database accessible at <http://www.iucnredlist.org>. Captured on 14 May 2009.
- Cuentas-Montalvo, D., R. Borja-Acuña, J.D. Lynch and J.M. Renjifo. 2002. Anuros del Departamento del Atlántico y Norte del Bolívar. *Barranquilla: Cencys* 21. 117 p.
- Duellman, W.E. 1970. The hylids frogs of Middle America. Monograph of the Museum of Natural History, The University of Kansas (1): 1-753.
- Duellman, W.E. 2001. The Hylid Frogs of Middle America. Ithaca, New York: Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. 1180 p.
- Duellman, W.E. and M. J. Fouquette. 1968. Middle American frogs of the *Hyla microcephala* Group. University of Kansas Publications. Museum of Natural History 17(12): 517-557.
- McCranie, J.R. and L.D. Wilson. 2002. The Amphibians of Honduras; p. 1-625 In K. Adler and T.D. Perry (ed.) *Contributions to Herpetology*. Ithaca, New York: Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles.
- Muñoz-Guerrero, J., V.H. Serrano and M.P. Ramírez-Pinilla. 2007. Uso de microhábitat, dieta y tiempo de actividad en cuatro especies simpátricas de ranas hílidas neotropicales (Anura: Hylidae). *Caldasia* 29(2): 413-425.
- Renjifo, J.M. and M. Lundberg. 1999. Guía de campo. Anfibios y Reptiles de Urrá. Medellín: Editorial Colina. 96 p.
- Romero-Martínez, H.J., C.C. Vidal-Pastrana and J.D. Lynch. Estudio preliminar de la fauna amphibia en el Cerro Murrucucú, Parque Natural Nacional Paramillo y zona amortiguadora Tierralta, Córdoba, Colombia. *Caldasia* 30(1): 209-229.
- Ruiz-Carranza, P.M., M.C. Ardila-Robayo and J.D. Lynch. 1996. Lista Actualizada de la fauna de Amphibia de Colombia. *Revista de la Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales* 20: 365-415

Received: June 2009

Revised: October 2009

Accepted: December 2009

Published online: December 2009

Editorial responsibility: Marcelo N. C. Kokubum